

Abstract

A piezoelectric actuator, e.g. for actuating a mechanical component, which is comprised of a multi-layered construction of piezoelectric layers (2) interleaved with inner electrodes (3, 4; 14, 15). The inner electrodes (3, 4; 14, 15) are contacted on alternating sides by outer electrodes (5, 6; 11) and the regions between the outer electrodes (5, 6; 11) are provided with a suitable insulation (12, 13). An insulating layer (12, 13), which is comprised of a material with properties virtually identical to those of the piezoelectric layers (2), is applied to the external surface of the piezoelectric actuator (1; 10) in the region between the outer electrodes (5, 6; 11).

(Fig. 2)